

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING  
April 4, 2024**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG HELD APRIL 4, 2024 AT THE NETCONG MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 23 MAPLE AVENUE, NETCONG, NEW JERSEY COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Still at 7:30 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STATEMENT OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

The Borough Administrator read the following statement:  
Adequate notice of this meeting as defined by the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided by:

1. Posting a notice of said meeting in the space provided for  
Such announcements at the Borough Hall on January 5, 2024.
2. Publishing a notice in the Daily Record, the official newspaper  
of the Borough of Netcong on January 10, 2024 and emailing a  
copy to the Star Ledger on January 5, 2024.

**ROLL CALL**

Those in attendance this evening were Councilman Laureys, Councilman Morton, Councilman Nametko and Mayor Still. Also present was Mr. Blakeslee, Borough Administrator.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Mr. Steve Azaro, Stanhope, is a member of the Lakeland Little League Board and wanted to thank the Council for all that they do for the little league. He also wanted to invite the Council to the opening day on April 20th at 10AM.

A Motion to close the meeting to the public was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton.

Roll Call: 3 Yes

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

*The following items are for discussion purposes only. Any action on these items will take place at the meeting of April 11, 2024.*

1. **Minutes** – March 7, 2024
2. **Minutes** – March 14, 2024

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve the minutes with one change of a name spelling.  
Roll Call: 2 Yes

**3. Introduction of the 2024 Municipal Budget**

**Ordinance Introduction – Ordinance 2024-13** - to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits and to Establish a Cap Bank

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

**4. Resolution 2024-- Introduction of the 2024 Municipal Budget**

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

**5. Public Hearing on the SID Assessments**

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

**6. Resolution 2024** - Resolution Approving the Property Assessments for the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District of the Borough of Netcong

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

**7. Resolution 2024** – Approving the Introduction of the 2024 Budget of the Netcong Community Partnership Special Improvement District and Authorizing a Public Hearing to Be Held Thereon

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

**8. Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2024-8** - An Ordinance Authorizing The Chief Of Police To Execute An Application For A Charitable Solicitation Permit For Netcong Volunteer Fire Company No. 1's "Coin Drop" On Memorial Day Weekend And Columbus Day Weekend At The Intersections Of Allen Street And Ledgewood Avenue And Main Street And Route 46 And Route 183 In The Borough Of Netcong, County Of Morris, State Of New Jersey

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

9. **Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2024-9** - An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 54 "Police Department" Of The Code Of The Borough Of Netcong Amending Procedures For Hiring And Promotions In The Police Department

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

10. **Bond Ordinance Adoption – Bond Ordinance 2024-10** - Bond Ordinance To Amend Section 8 Of The Bond Ordinance (Ord. No. 2023-4) Entitled: "Bond Ordinance To Authorize The Acquisition Of A New Pumper Fire Engine, Including Original Apparatus And Equipment, In, By And For The Borough Of Netcong, In The County Of Morris, State Of New Jersey, To Appropriate The Sum Of \$900,000 To Pay The Cost Thereof, To Make A Down Payment, To Authorize The Issuance Of Bonds To Finance Such Appropriation And To Provide For The Issuance Of Bond Anticipation Notes In Anticipation Of The Issuance Of Such Bonds," Adopted March 9, 2023.

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

11. **Ordinance Adoption – Ordinance 2024-11** - Ordinance Of The Borough Of Netcong, County Of Morris And State Of New Jersey Authorizing And Approving A Financial Agreement Between The Borough Of Netcong And Mountain View At Netcong Urban Renewal LLC, For Property Designated On The Municipal Tax Map As Block 26, Lot 6 And A Portion Of Block 26, Lot 10, Commonly Known As 10 Church Street, Pursuant To The Long-Term Tax Exemption Law Found At N.J.S.A. 40a:20-1 Et Seq.

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

12. **Ordinance Adoption- Ordinance 2024-12** - An Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of Certain Property Owned By The Borough Of Netcong, Morris County, New Jersey, Not Required For Public Purposes Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40a:12-13, Et Seq.

To be carried to the April 11th Meeting.

13. **Correspondence** –Letter from County of Morris – Local Safety Action Plan-Local Implementation Group.

Mr Blakeslee noted that the group wanted a representative to be in attendance.

14. **Old Business-** Flooding Concerns

Mr. Blakeslee explained there would be a representative at the next month's meeting. The DPW can inspect for issues.

15. **New Business-** None

**16. Resolution** – Resolution 2024- 52-To Appoint Therese dePierro Part Time Tax Assessor

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 3 Yes

**17. Resolution** – Resolution 2024- 53- Authorizing The Award of a Contract for Professional Services for a Traffic Engineer

The Council had a brief discussion regarding what was to be completed.

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 3 Yes

**18. Resolution** – Resolution 2024- 54- Authorizing the Appointment of a Vacant Property Registration Company and Award of Professional Service Contract in Connection Therewith.

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 3 Yes

**19. Resolution** – Resolution 2024- 55- Authorizing the Morris County Tax Board to Update the 2024 Tax Book to Include Special Improvement District Assessments for Block 41 Lot 16, Block 45, Lot 1 and Block 16.01 Lots 23 and 25.01

A Motion was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Morton to approve this resolution.

Roll Call: 2 Yes      No: Councilman Laureys

**20. Ordinance Introduction-** None

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR TO THE COUNCIL**

Councilman Laureys related his conversation with Ms. Ruocco.

**MAYORS COMMENTS**

The mayor commented on the recent major storm. Councilman Nametko noted it stripped the siding off one of the businesses downtown.

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING**

Mr. Matthew Eddy, 2 Flanders Rd., asked about the 2024-11 Ordinance. Mr. Blakeslee responded they don't put the Ordinance out until the night of the public hearing.

A Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Laureys.

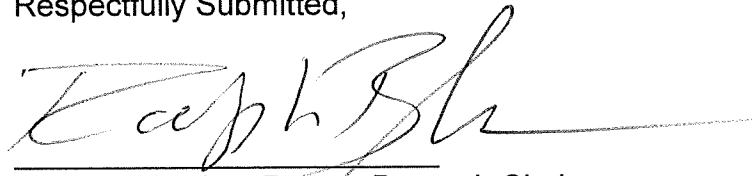
**CLOSED SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn the Meeting was made by Councilman Nametko and seconded by Councilman Laureys at 7:46 PM and was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ralph Blakeslee, Deputy Borough Clerk

## RESOLUTION #2024-52

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The following appointment is hereby made:

Therese dePierro, CTA as Part Time Tax Assessor, appointment beginning on April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 and then full 4-year term July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2028, at a salary of \$14,651.00 per year, payable semi-monthly.

2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

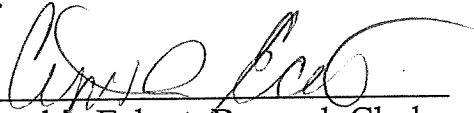
BOROUGH OF NETCONG

By: 

Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated:

I, Cynthia Eckert, Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough of Netcong at a meeting held April 4, 2024.

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG, COUNTY OF MORRIS,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT  
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR A TRAFFIC ENGINEER**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Netcong has a need to obtain the services of a Traffic Engineer and has determined to award the contract as a professional service without obtaining competitive bids or quotations pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has determined and certified in writing that the value of the service will exceed \$17,500.00; and

**WHEREAS**, the anticipated term of this contract is one year; and

**WHEREAS**, Joseph A. Fishinger, P.E., P.P., P.T.O.E. has submitted a proposal indicating that he will provide the services of Borough Engineer at an hourly rate of \$180.00 per hour for services rendered; and

**WHEREAS**, Joseph A. Fishinger, P.E., P.P., P.T.O.E. has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that he has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Borough of Netcong for the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit him from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the funds are available for this contract.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Borough of Netcong hereby appoints Joseph A. Fishinger, P.E., P.P., P.T.O.E. as Traffic Engineer and authorizes the Mayor and Borough Clerk to execute a contract with Mr. Fishinger in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value associated with this contract be placed on file with this resolution; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be printed once in the legal newspaper of the Borough of Netcong as required by law.

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

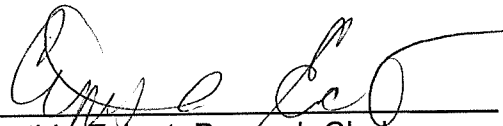
By: 

Elmer M. Still, Mayor

Dated:

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Cynthia Eckert, Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough at a meeting held on April 4, 2024.

  
Cynthia Eckert, Borough Clerk



**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A VACANT  
PROPERTY REGISTRATION COMPANY AND AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE CONTRACT IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Netcong, pursuant to Chapter 226 of the Code of the Borough of Netcong, has determined it necessary to employ a vacant property registration company; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council intend by this resolution to award to MUNIREG LLC, an Ohio limited liability company, a professional services contract for the year 04/05/2024- 12/31/2024 at a rate of \$125.00 per registered property; and

**WHEREAS**, such award of contract shall be made as a non – fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Netcong has determined and certified in writing that the value of the professional services will not exceed \$17,500; and

**WHEREAS**, the anticipated term of this contract is for one year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) requires that the resolution authorizing the award of contract for “Professional Services,” without competitive bids and the contract itself, must be available for public inspection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough of Netcong, County of Morris and State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the Mayor, Borough Administrator and Clerk to enter into a contract with MUNIREG LLC as described hereinabove; and

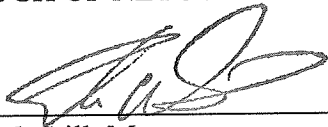
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because these services are rendered or performed by a person authorized by law to practice a recognized profession

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that a notice of this action shall be printed once in the legal newspaper of the Borough of Netcong as required by law.

BOROUGH OF NETCONG

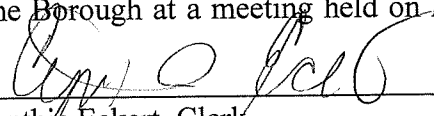
By:

  
Elmer M. Still, Mayor

Dated:

CERTIFICATION

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Cynthia Eckert, Clerk

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MORRIS COUNTY TAX BOARD TO UPDATE  
THE 2024 TAX BOOK TO INCLUDE SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
ASSESSMENTS FOR BLOCK 41, LOT 16; BLOCK 45, LOT 1; AND BLOCK 16.01,  
LOTS 23 AND 25.01 IN THE BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council has established a Special Improvement District (hereinafter "SID") within the Borough of Netcong; and

**WHEREAS**, each year certain properties within the SID are assessed by including them in the Morris County Tax Book in accordance with the rates established by the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, this year the Borough neglected to notify the Morris County Tax Board of four (4) properties that had been added to the SID; and


**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council wishes to direct the Tax Assessor to notify the Morris County Tax Board of the mistake and request that the four (4) SID properties be added to the 2024 Tax Book.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Netcong, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the Borough Tax Assessor is hereby authorized and directed to notify the Morris County Tax Board of the Borough's mistake and request that the following four (4) properties within the SID be added into the 2024 Tax Book:

Tier 2 (special tax code S02) – Block 41, Lot 6, Manor Garden Properties  
Tier 2 (special tax code S02) – Block 45, Lot 1, Netcong Heights, LLC  
Tier 3 (special tax code S03) – Block 16.01, Lot 23, Semper Development Group, LLC  
Tier 3 (special tax code S03) – Block 16.01, Lot 25.01, 34 BNK Renewal, LLC

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BOROUGH OF NETCONG**

By:   
Elmer Still, Mayor

Dated: April 4, 2024

## CERTIFICATION

I, Cynthia Eckert, Clerk of the Borough of Netcong, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough at a meeting held on April 4, 2024.

  
Cynthia Eckert, Clerk